OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LIAISON



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Matters of Interest to the Department of the Air Force in the Congressional Record of April 8, 2003

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HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 8, 2003

FY03 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS: House disagreed to the Senate amdts to H.R.1559, the FY03 emergency wartime supplemental appropriations bill, agreed to a conference thereto and appointed as conferees Reps Young of Florida and Representatives Regula, Lewis of California, Rogers of Kentucky, Wolf, Kolbe, Walsh, Taylor of North Carolina, Hobson, Istook, Bonilla, Knollenberg, Kingston, Frelinghuysen, Obey, Murtha, Dicks, Sabo, Mollohan, Kaptur, Visclosky, Lowey, Serrano, Moran of Virginia, and Edwards. House also agreed to a motion to instruct House conferees on the bill to recede to the Senate on section 409 of the Senate-passed bill providing 26 weeks of temporary extended unemployment compensation for displaced airline-related workers. (H2870-77)

MILITARY TAXES: Without comment, <u>Rep Thomas</u> (R-CA) introduced <u>H.R.1664</u>, a compromise version of H.R.1307 that was passed in different forms by both the House and Senate. Bill was referred to the House Cmte on Ways & Means. (**Research Team note:** this compromise bill could be considered on the House floor as early as April 9; see the House portion of this Digest for a summary of the modified bill) (H2937-8)

ACCESS TO SPACE: House received an <u>executive communication</u> (#1705) from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's <u>report regarding assured access to space for the United States</u>; referred to the House Armed Services Cmte. Text of communication does not appear. (H2936)

SENATE, APRIL 8, 2003

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION: The <u>text</u> of <u>H.R. 1559</u>, making emergency wartime supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, as amended and passed by the Senate, <u>appears</u> at S4982-94.

TRIBUTE: Several Senators saluted the troops who are serving in Iraq and paid tribute to those who have died. (S4920-22)

SENATE, APRIL 8, 2003

- CUBA: Sen Bill Nelson (D-FL) observed that in Cuba, Fidel Castro has used the world's focus on the war in Iraq to divert attention in order to brutally crack down and further oppress Cubans who desire freedom. Stated that he has been rounding up and jailing democracy advocates, librarians, independent journalists, and signers of the Varela Project, which he said embodies the principles upon which all the world agrees: the right of the Cuban people to petition their government for civil and human rights, including free and fair elections. Noted that the Senate recently passed S. Res. 97, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the arrests of Cuban democracy advocates. Expressed his appreciation to the Foreign Relations Cmte, which he said "absolutely whizzed this resolution through...." Concluded "we in the Senate are watching. We are not going to let Fidel Castro get away with these kinds of actions. And we are going to keep the glare of the world view in the international community on this kind of thuggery." Sen Leahy (D-VT) commended Sen Nelson for his remarks and announced that he would make a statement later in the week on the same subject. (S4949-50)
- JUSTICE: <u>Sen Smith</u> (R-OR) addressed the need for hate crimes legislation. Recalled that in the last Congress, he and <u>Sen Kennedy</u> (D-MA) introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act to send a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Described an incident in which an Arab-American man was attacked in a grocery store in New York City on September 16. (S4950)
- EGYPT: Sen Bunning (R-KY) announced that although he withdrew his amdt to S. 762, supplemental appropriations, expressing the sense of the Senate for the need for political reform in Egypt, he did intend to pursue this issue during consideration of the FY 04 foreign operations appropriations bill. Hoped to have productive discussions on how US assistance can be better used to promote the development of democratic institutions and practices in that country. (S4953)
- HUMAN RIGHTS / BURMA: Sen Feingold (D-WI) expressed deep disappointment in the human rights record of Burma. Said he had consistently been critical of political and human rights abuses in Burma. Added that he has been deeply troubled by reports which were confirmed by the State Dept and stated that recent events in Burma which raise concerns about the depth of Burma's commitment to improving conditions within its borders only serve to heighten his concern. Asserted that as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Cmte, he would continue to monitor human rights in Burma. (S4953)
- MILITARY PERSONNEL / IMMIGRATION: Sen Miller (D-GA) drew attention to the story of PFC Diego Rincon, USA, who served with the 3rd Infantry, and was killed on March 29 in Iraq by a suicide bomber at a military checkpoint. Explained that he a native of Colombia who came to the United States in 1989 with his family when he was 5 years old. He enlisted in the US Army following the September 11 terrorist attacks. Following his death, his family asked that he made a US citizen. Sen Miller said he was very pleased and proud to announce that with the help of the INS, PFC Rincon has been awarded US citizenship. Noting that there are thousands of noncitizens fighting in our military right now, announced that he and Sen Chambliss (R-GA) are introducing legislation (S. 783 introduced on April 3) calling for citizenship to be granted to any soldier who fights in our armed services and dies in combat. (S4953)

SENATE, APRIL 8, 2003

- RESERVES: Sen Collins (R-ME), for herself and several colleagues, introduced S. 812, to increase rates of educational assistance under the program of educational assistance for members of the Selected Reserve. Said that at a time when our men and women in uniform are fighting valiantly to bring peace and opportunity to an oppressed people and ensure the security of our homeland, he was pleased to introduce this bill to extend the opportunity of higher education to many of those very same men and women in uniform. Explained that her bill would return reserve educational assistance benefits to the level intended by the original drafting of the Reserve Montgomery GI Bill. Noted that at its inception in 1985, the Reserve Montgomery GI Bill provided 47% of basic active component Montgomery GI bill benefits, but during the ensuring 18 years, the parity of the reserve program with its active duty counterpart has slipped. Text inserted. Urged her colleagues to support the bill. (S4960-1)
- SMALL BUSINESS: <u>Sen Snowe</u> (R-ME) introduced, for herself and several colleagues, and discussed at length <u>S. 818</u>, to ensure the independence and nonpartisan operation of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration. Text included. (S4964-7)
- MILITARY PERSONNEL: Sen Inouye (D-HI) submitted S. Res. 107, expressing the sense of the Senate to designate the month of November 2003 as "National Military Family Month." Remarked "As we all know, memories fade and the hardships experienced by our military families are easily forgotten unless they touch our own immediate family." Believed a month-long observance would allow greater opportunity to plan events to honor the families of the men and women deployed all over the world, engaged in the war on terrorism. Text appears (S4974)
- IRAQ: <u>Sen Specter</u> (R-PA) submitted <u>S. Con. Res. 34</u>, calling for the prosecution of Iraqis and their supporters for war crimes. Text only. (S4975)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, APRIL 8, 2003

MILITARY TAXES: Following summary of <u>H.R.1664</u>, the compromise military tax bill, was prepared by the House Republican Conference. This measure is scheduled for House floor action on April 9 under suspension of the rules procedures.

Summary

- Capital Gain Exclusion for Home Sales Under current law, individuals may exclude up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 for married couples) of gain from the sale of a home if they resided in the home for two of the five years preceding the sale. The bill allows military and Foreign Service personnel to ignore time transferred away from home on official extended duty for purposes of determining the 5-year period.
- Tax-Free Treatment of Death Gratuity Benefits Under current law, survivors of members of the military receive a \$6,000 death gratuity payment, but only half of it is tax-free. The bill provides that the full \$6,000 payment is tax-free.

MILITARY TAXES: Summary (cont)

- Tax-Free Treatment of "HAP" Payments Under current law, members of the Armed Forces can receive payments under the Homeowners' Assistance Program to compensate them for a drop in home values resulting from military base closures or realignments. The bill provides that these payments are tax-free.
- Extend Combat Zone Filing Rules to Contingency Operations Under current law, several deadlines under the Tax Code (such as filing tax returns and making tax payments) are extended for certain individuals serving in a combat zone during a period of combatant activities. The bill applies these deadline extension rules to individuals serving in "contingency operations" (i.e., military operations designated by the Secretary of Defense in which personnel are or may become involved in military actions during a war or national emergency declared by the President or Congress).
- Modify Eligibility Criteria of Tax-Exempt Veterans' Organizations The bill modifies the definition of a tax-exempt veterans' organization by allowing ancestors or lineal descendents to be treated as members for purposes of one of the membership requirements.
- Tax-Free Treatment of Dependent Care Benefits Clarifies that dependent care assistance provided under a military dependent care assistance program is tax-free.
- Treatment of Distributions from Qualified Tuition Programs and Coverdell Education Savings Accounts for Service Academy Appointments Under current law, distributions from a qualified tuition program or a Coverdell Education Savings Account are subject to a 10-percent penalty if they are not used for qualified higher education expenses. An exception is made if the student receives a scholarship. Without the exception, families who save for college would be penalized if their children receive scholarships. The bill clarifies that appointments to a military academy are treated like scholarships for purposes of the exception to the 10-percent penalty.
- Above-the-Line Deduction for Overnight Travel Expenses of Military Reservists The bill provides an above-the-line deduction for up to \$1,500 of non-reimbursable travel expenses incurred by military reservists who serve more than 100 miles away from home and stay overnight.
- Extension of Victims' Tax Relief to Astronauts Who Die on Space Missions Extends the income and estate tax relief provisions of the Victims of Terrorism Tax Relief Act of 2002 to astronauts who lose their lives in a space shuttle mission.

H.R. 1664 contains the following modifications to H.R. 1307:

• The special rule provided for military personnel to determine the capital gain exclusion on home sales is extended to members of the Foreign Service.

MILITARY TAXES: Summary (cont)

• The income and estate tax relief provided under the Victims' of Terrorism Tax Relief Act of 2002 is extended to astronauts who lose their lives during a space mission, including those who lost their lives during the Columbia shuttle disaster.

On March 20, 2003, the House of Representatives passed <u>H.R. 1307</u>, the Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act of 2003, by a vote of 422 - 0. Senate passed an amended version of the bill on March 27 by a vote of 97-0.

Legislative History

H.R. 1664 was introduced by Rep. Thomas on April 8, 2003. It was referred to the Ways and Means Committee, but was not considered in committee. H.R.1307 was considered in the committee.

- WAR IN IRAQ: Rep Stearns (R-FL) praised the accomplishments of the US military in the Iraqi war. Stressed the importance of passing the conference report on the War Supplemental bill (H.R. 1559) to ensure the safety and efficiency of our "military machine." Cited the capture of foreign nationals from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Yemen as proof of an al Qaeda link to Saddam Hussein. In regards to the reconstruction of Iraq, warned that countries that opposed this war will now try to "profit from our military's work." Believed the UN would fail to effectively oversee the reconstruction as they failed in "Kosovo, Bosnia and Somalia." (H2866-67)
- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT: Rep Kucinich (D-OH) introduced H.R. 1673, which would create the Department of Peace. Said this is the moment when we need to take steps to "making nonviolence an organizing principle in our society." Mentioned that the bill has 46 cosponsors. (H2870, H2938)
- WARTIME SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS: The House disagreed with the Senate amendment to H.R. 1559, making emergency wartime supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and agreed to a conference with the Senate. By yea-and-nay vote of 265 yeas to 150 nays, Roll No. 112, the House agreed to Obey motion to instruct conferees to recede to the Senate on section 409 of the Senate amendment providing 26 weeks of additional temporary extended unemployment compensation for displaced airline related workers. Rep Obey (D-WI) argued that if we are going to provide another "bailout" for the airline industry then we should at least provide assistance to the displaced workers in that industry. Rep Hoyer (D-MD) urged his colleagues to support the motion to instruct. Said it has bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, despite the fact that the Administration has labeled it "objectionable." Rep Pelosi (D-CA) also voiced her support, whereas Rep Young (R-FL) believed the motion would hold up the bill in conference, and therefore, would vote against it. The Chair appointed the following as conferees: Chairman Young of Florida and Representatives Regula, Lewis of California, Rogers of Kentucky, Wolf, Kolbe, Walsh, Taylor of North Carolina, Hobson, Istook, Bonilla, Knollenberg, Kingston, Frelinghuysen, Obey, Murtha, Dicks, Sabo, Mollohan, Kaptur, Visclosky, Lowey, Serrano, Moran of Virginia, and Edwards. (H2870-72, H2877)

- BUDGET: Rep Pallone (D-NJ) expressed his strong opposition to the "inclusion of any Medicaid or Medicare cuts in the final budget resolution" (H. Con. Res.95), which is currently in conference. Said the budget instructs the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce to make cuts of \$107 billion and \$62 billion, respectively. Feared that most of these cuts would fall on Medicaid or Medicare. (H2868)
- TRIBUTE: The House suspended the rules and <u>agreed to H. Res. 170</u>, recognizing the <u>40th anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S. Thresher</u>, by voice vote. <u>Rep Bradley</u> (R-NH) rose to honor the memory of the sailors and civilians aboard the U.S.S. Thresher. Said the Thresher was the first of the new class of nuclear submarines that sunk off of Cape Cod when a leak in the engine room seawater system caused a reactor shutdown. Remarked that because of this tragic accident the US Navy implemented the <u>SUBSAFE Program</u>, which requires each sub to receive a full safety certification. (H2883-85)
- TRIBUTE: The House suspended the rules and by voice vote <u>agreed H. Res. 149</u>, <u>expressing the condolences</u> of the House of Representatives in response to the <u>assassination of Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic of Serbia</u>. <u>Rep Bereuter</u> (R-NE) said PM Djindjic was determined to <u>integrate Serbia into Europe</u> and "the communities of Western democracies." Remarked that this resolution would offer our strongest encouragement to the new leaders of Serbia and Montenegro in reforming their country. (H2885-87)
- CUBA: The House suspended the rules and by a \(\frac{2/3}\) yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas with none voting "nay" with 11 voting "present", Roll No. 117, agreed to H. Res. 179, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the systematic human rights violations in Cuba committed by the Castro regime, calling for the immediate release of all political prisoners, and supporting respect for basic human rights and free elections in Cuba. Rep Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) said "indifference is the enemy of freedom" and that Fidel Castro counts on this indifference. Remarked that the European Union and various Human Rights Groups have spoken out against the surge in the arrest of political prisoners and that the US must now add its voice. Other Representatives rose to voice their support. (H2887-95, H2910-11)
- TRADE / AFRICA: The House suspended the rules and by a \2/3\ yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 2 nays with 1 voting ``present", Roll No. 118, agreed to H.R. 1584, the Clean Diamond Trade Act, a bill to implement effective measures to stop trade in conflict diamonds. Rep Levin (D-MI) said the bill would implement our obligations to an international system that ensures rough diamonds entering the US are legally mined and traded. Rep Lantos (D-CA) stated the illicit trade in conflict diamonds fuels the wars going on in Sierra Leone, Angola and the Congo. Said this bill would ensure the US and our jewelry industry are not complicit in any further exploitation of diamonds. (H2895-H2901, H2911)
- ENVIRONMENT: Rep Blumenauer (D-OR) addressed the "concentrated assault on environmental protections in this country." Discussed DOD's attempt to gain exemptions from environmental laws. Said these exemptions "seek to theoretical encroachments to military readiness." Argued there is no evidence that our environmental laws have hurt our troop's ability to prepare for war. Asserted these laws protect the health of families living near or on military bases, as well as extending the life of the training ranges. (H2922-28)

WAR IN IRAQ: Rep Hoeffel (D-PA) discussed the challenges facing the US after the war is over. These include peacekeeping, humanitarian relief, reconstruction, and governance. Said how we handle these issues will determine whether we win the peace. Feared if we pursue an "antagonistic diplomacy" with our allies or if we abandon our "traditional reliance on multinational action than the US would lose its credibility as a world leader. Suggested 8 steps to meet these challenges and better serve the interests of the Iraqi people. These include making the State Department rather than DOD in charge of US policy in Iraq, utilize NATO in the peacekeeping operations, engage help from the World Bank, and Iraqis must establish control over their oil. (H2914-15)

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS, APRIL 8, 2003

APPROPRIATIONS: Rep Stark (D-CA) voiced his support for passage of H.R.1559, the FY03 emergency wartime supplemental appropriations, but said he was troubled by the vote. Said "The President's crusade to preemptively invade Iraq without regard to peace or diplomacy was wrong. I voted against the resolution giving him the authority to do so and remain opposed to this war. I continue to question the President's judgment as commander-in-chief. Yet, when our troops are in harms way, Congress has a duty to support them and support them we must." (E701)

TRIBUTE: Rep Tanner (D-TN) commended the thousands of men and women who serve in the Tennessee National Guard, many of whom have been called to serve in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Said he had the pleasure of working alongside such personnel during his 26 years in the Tennessee Army National Guard. Noted that the 164th Airlift Wing and the 118th Airlift Wing of the Air National Guard were just two of the units who comprise the Guard and Reserve forces in the state. (E707)

MEASURES REPORTED, APRIL 8, 2003 HOUSE

H.R. 1297, to require the construction at Arlington National Cemetery of a memorial to the crew of the Columbia Orbiter (H. Rept. 108-62 Part 1);

BILLS INTRODUCED, APRIL 8, 2003 <u>SENATE</u>

By Ms COLLINS (for herself and Sens DASCHLE, JOHNSON, B NELSON, and DURBIN): S. 812. A bill to amend section 16131 of title 10, United States Code, to increase rates of educational assistance under the program of <u>educational assistance</u> for members of the Selected Reserve; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr INOUYE:

S. Res. 107. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to designate the month of November 2003 as "National Military Family Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

BILLS INTRODUCED, APRIL 8, 2003 SENATE

By Mr SPECTER (for himself and Sen BIDEN):

S. Con. Res. 34. A concurrent resolution calling for the prosecution of Iraqis and their supporters for <u>war crimes</u>, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations

HOUSE

By Mr THOMAS:

H.R. 1664. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for members of the uniformed services in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of a principal residence and to restore the tax exempt status of death gratuity payments to members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means

By Mr BOYD:

H.R. 1666. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that discontinuance of <u>veterans'</u> <u>disability compensation</u> upon the death of a veteran shall be effective as of the date of death of the veteran rather than the last day of the month preceding the veteran's death; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr KUCINICH (for himself and others):

H.R. 1673. A bill to <u>establish a Department of Peace</u>; to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on International Relations, the Judiciary, and Education and the Workforce

By Ms CAPITO:

H. Res. 182. A resolution <u>commending Private First Class Jessica Lynch</u>, United States Army, the special operations forces who on April 1, 2003, rescued her from captivity by Iraqi forces, and all United States and coalition forces in Iraq; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, APRIL 8, 2003 HOUSE

- 1704. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report for <u>purchases from foreign entities</u> for Fiscal Year 2002, pursuant to Public Law 104--201, section 827 (110 Stat. 2611); to the Committee on Armed Services.
- 1705. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's report regarding <u>assured access to space</u> for the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services
- 1706. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report entitled, "Development of Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Programs and Activities Beginning in FY 2004"; to the Committee on Armed Services

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, APRIL 8, 2003 HOUSE

- 1707. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule -- Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Extension of Contract Goal for Small Disadvantaged Businesses and Certain Institutions of Higher Education [DFARS Case 2002-D038] received April 3, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services
- 1708. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the President approved changes to the 2002 Unified Command Plan; to the Committee on Armed Services
- 1709. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule -- Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Foreign Acquisition [DFARS Case 2002-D009] received April 3, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, APRIL 8, 2003 SENATE

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded hearings to examine the proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 focusing on America's disaster response capabilities, pharmaceutical and vaccine stockpiles, assisting all levels of government, first responses, volunteer groups, and the public in meeting emergency challenges, and maintaining public information programs, after receiving testimony from Michael Brown, <u>Under Secretary of Homeland Security for the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate</u>

HOMELAND DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2004 focusing on homeland defense, after receiving testimony from Paul McHale, <u>Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense</u>; General Ralph E. Eberhart, USAF, <u>Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command</u>, and United States Northern Command; and Admiral James O. Ellis, USN, <u>Commander, United States Strategic Command</u>

STRATEGIC FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded open and closed hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2004 focusing on strategic forces and policy, after receiving testimony from Linton F. Brooks, Acting Administrator, NNSA, and Everet H. Beckner, Deputy Administrator, Defense Programs, both of the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy; Admiral James O. Ellis, Jr., USN, Commander, United States Strategic Command; Rear Admiral Charles B. Young, USN, Director, Strategic Systems Programs, Department of the Navy; and Brigadier General Robert L. Smolen, USAF, Director, Nuclear and Counterproliferation, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, APRIL 8, 2003 SENATE

NATO ENLARGEMENT

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded hearings to examine North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) enlargement, after receiving testimony from Marc I. Grossman, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs; General Wesley K. Clark, USA (Ret.), Wesley Clark and Associates, Little Rock, Arkansas; and William Kristol, The Weekly Standard, Washington, D.C.

HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Government Reform's Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization to examine the federal government's strategic human capital management and related proposals to facilitate the General Accounting Office's efforts to recruit and retain top talent, develop a more performance-based compensation system, help realign the federal workforce, and facilitate succession planning and knowledge transfer efforts, after receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, General Accounting Office; Dan G. Blair, Deputy Director, Office of Personnel Management; Bobby L. Harnage, Sr., American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, Colleen M. Kelley, National Treasury Employees Union, Carol A. Bonosaro, Senior Executives Association, Hannah S. Sistare, National Commission on the Public Service, Max Stier, Partnership for Public Service, and Major General Robert A. McIntosh, USAF (Ret.), Reserve Officers Association of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.: Karen Heiser, Federal Managers Association, Alexandria, Virginia; Steven J. Kelman, Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and Jeff Taylor, Monster, Maynard, Massachusetts.

HOUSE

CYBER SECURITY

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held a hearing entitled ``Cyber Security: The Challenges Facing Our Nation In Critical Infrastructure Protection." Testimony was heard from Mark A. Forman, Associate Director, Information Technology and Electronic Government, OMB; Robert Dacey, Director, Information Security Issues, GAO; Thomas Pyke, Chief Information Officer, Department of Commerce; Richard Clarke, former Special Advisor to the President for Cyberspace Security; and public witnesses